

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)
MINUTES OF THE
SENATE LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Friday, February 1, 2013 – 8:00 a.m. – Room 450 State Capitol

Members Present:

President Wayne L. Niederhauser, Chair
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Ralph Okerlund

Staff Present:

Mr. Ric Cantrell, Chief of Staff, Utah State Senate
Ms. Phalin L. Flowers, Administrative Assistant

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

The committee met jointly with the House Legislative Expense Oversight Committee, which consists of Speaker Rebecca D. Lockhart as chair, and Rep. Brad L. Dee and Rep. Jennifer M. Seelig as members. President Wayne L. Niederhauser chaired the joint meeting.

1. Call to Order

Chair Niederhauser called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

2. Introduction of Committee Members and Staff

Members of both committees and staff introduced themselves.

3. Consideration of Procedures of Lodging, Meal, and Transportation Reimbursement for Legislators

Mr. Benjamin Christensen, Policy Analyst, and Ms. Rebecca Rockwell, Associate General Counsel, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, introduced the issue and discussed "House and Senate Legislative Expense Oversight Committee Procedures for Lodging, Meal, and Transportation Reimbursement for Legislators," 2013 General Session H.J.R. 6, "Joint Rules Resolution - Compensation and Expense Reimbursements," and "Second Revised Supplemental Report of the Utah Legislative Compensation Commission."

Mr. Christensen explained that the recommendations of the Utah Legislative Compensation Commission were incorporated into H.J.R. 6, and that staff drafted procedures for the House and Senate to implement the recommendations listed in H.J.R. 6 and the report of the Utah Legislative Compensation Commission. Ms. Rockwell said that H.J.R. 6 repeals meal, lodging, and mileage per diem rules, and replaces the rules with a reimbursement-based rule that conforms to the recommendations of the Utah Legislative Compensation Commission.

Mr. Christensen distributed and discussed draft potential changes to "House and Senate Legislative Expense Oversight Committee Procedures for Lodging, Meal, and Transportation Reimbursement for Legislators." Committee discussion followed.

MOTION: Sen. Okerlund moved to incorporate the following changes into "House and Senate Legislative Expense Oversight Committee Procedures for Lodging, Meal, and Transportation Reimbursement for Legislators":

Under Part 2, Lodging Expenses, Section 2.1, Lodging, Subsection (1), add the word "actual" after "governs."

Under Part 2, Lodging Expenses, Section 2.1, Lodging, Subsection (2), delete the word "A" and insert "During a general session, a." Delete "not" and "unless:". Delete "(a) the lodging is necessary in connection with a meeting: (i) authorized by the Legislative Management Committee; and (ii) that is held on an authorized legislative day this is a Saturday or Sunday; or (b) the" and insert "for." Delete "is" after "lodging."

Under Part 3, Meal Expenses, Section 3.1 Meals, Subsection (2)(a), delete "made available through" and insert "provided by."

Under Part 3, Meal Expenses, Section 3.1 Meals, Subsection (2), delete subsection (2)(c) and renumber subsection (d), (e), and (f).

Under Part 3, Meal Expenses, Section 3.1 Meals, Subsection (2)(e), delete "cost of the meal" and insert "reimbursement amount."

Under Part 5, Expense Receipts, Section 5.1, Receipts, Subsection (1)(b), delete "14" and insert "21."

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Sen. Okerlund moved to adopt "House and Senate Legislative Expense Oversight Committee Procedures for Lodging, Meal, and Transportation Reimbursement for Legislators" as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

The House Legislative Expense Oversight Committee made the same motions. Both passed unanimously.

4. Other Business

MOTION: Rep. Dee moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Niederhauser adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.